

Medicare insolvency, which is fine, because that is precisely what we intend to do for the sake of our children, our seniors, and the future of this great Nation.

□ 1815

TRIBUTE TO THE CHAMPION HOUSTON ROCKETS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HAYWORTH). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DELAY] is recognized for 10 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, the Houston Rockets have done it again. How fitting that on Flag Day, the Rockets captured their second championship banner. Who would have thought just 7 short weeks ago that the Rockets would be the World Champions? Who could have thought that a team ranked No. 6 going into the Western Conference playoffs, could win it all? Who dared to dream that the combination of Hakeem "The Dream" Olajuwon and Clyde "the Glide" Drexler would accomplish something that eluded them in their years together at my alma-mater, the University of Houston? Well, the answer to these questions should be obvious—nobody. Nobody believed the Houston Rockets could win a second world championship; nobody but the Houston Rockets. And in the end, that's all that really mattered. Last night the Rockets used their magic brooms to sweep the Orlando Magic back to the land of Disney.

When Rudy Tomjonavich took the helm of this Houston ballclub 2 years ago, he inherited a team that many thought talented, but few thought capable of winning a championship. However, through their hard work and dedication, the Rockets proved their critics wrong.

This season, the Rockets had a sub-par regular season. They struggled at times and the trade for Clyde Drexler was viewed by many as being a mistake. Nonetheless, the Phi Slamma Jamma duo proved to be an unstoppable winning combination.

The Houston Rockets are a positive role model for our country. They are the underdogs who have overcome great odds to achieve a goal. And doesn't this country just love an underdog. The Rockets have taught us all a valuable lesson about believing in yourself and performing to the best of your abilities. With the heartbeat of a champion, they have captured their second crown with an unprecedented combination of humility and hunger. Sure, the Rockets have the greatest player on the planet in Hakeem Olajuwon. But this victory was not an individual one by any stretch. It was a team victory. That is the beauty of the Houston Rockets.

Last night, Hakeem was awarded the Most Valuable Player in the finals. As reporters bombarded him with ques-

tions about what winning the award meant, it seemed that all Hakeem could do was unselfishly pay tribute to his teammates. "We played team basketball," he said. "I'm just so happy for Clyde."

Last year, when the Rockets won, they were all seen as a mediocre team who happened to win it all during a year when no great team emerged. This year, having won it again, the Rockets have finally proven to the world what they and "Clutch City" have known all along. This team is a legitimate champion. They are the first NBA team to ever repeat with a sweep. And now, having won another world championship, the Rockets have shown themselves to be the greatest basketball team in the world.

I send out a heartfelt congratulations to owner Les Alexander, Coach Rudy Tomjonavich and the Houston Rockets basketball team. On behalf of a grateful city I thank them for giving us yet another ring to be proud of. So before I leave today, let me leave you with a poem, chronicling the play-off drive of the world champion Houston Rockets.

The play-offs started against the Utah Jazz; The Rockets beat 'em, but nobody spazzed; Next came the Suns and Charles Barkley; Their talent, I'm afraid, proved a bunch of malarkey;

The Spurs were on fire, the highly praised number one seed;

But the Rockets cut 'em down to size, like an overgrown garden weed;

Finally at last, the Magic fell to defeat; The Rockets left standing, shouting "Repeat!"

Yes, Shaq be nimble

Yeah, Shaq be quick

But Shaq came to Houston

And got his tail kicked.

How sweet it is!!!

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. KLECZKA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for the week of June 13, on account of medical reasons.

Mr. DICKEY (at the request of Mr. ARMEY), for today, on account of official business.

Mr. McNULTY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today after 2 p.m., on account of personal reasons.

Mr. YATES (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today, on account of illness.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. POSHARD) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. LIPINSKI, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. OWENS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MONTGOMERY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. POSHARD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mrs. KELLY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, today and on June 21.

Mr. DELAY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EHLERS, for 5 minutes, today and on June 16.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GONZALEZ, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. STEARNS, for 10 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. POSHARD) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

Mr. LANTOS.

Mr. MONTGOMERY.

Mr. SKELTON.

Mr. MFUME.

Mr. MENENDEZ in two instances.

(The following Members (at the request of Mrs. KELLY) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. KING in two instances.

Mr. SPENCE.

Mr. GILCHREST.

Mrs. KELLY.

Mr. WALSH.

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey.

Mr. WOLF.

Mr. SOLOMON.

Mr. DAVIS.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, June 16, 1995, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1037. A letter from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Anti-Deficiency Act which occurred at the Maryland Army National Guard, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

1038. A letter from the Assistant Secretary (Special Operations/Low-Intensity Conflict),